

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Flexer and Rep. Fox and the Distinguished Members of the Committee,

We Support two important bills: S.B. 184 and H.B. 5262 regarding Absentee Voting

Attached is our testimony. (Also copied below.)

The hearing is today, FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2022, and we feel compelled to give testimony.

My husband and I have lived for 30 years in Norwalk, CT. We are strong advocates of voting rights, since our fathers both fought for democracy in WW II and we cannot stand to see the basic democratic right to vote being limited. We are in an at risk category, and being cautious has kept us safe from catching COVID 19. We want to have the option to again vote absentee in 2022.

The sad thing is that I have family and friends in many other states that have more expansive rights than the State of Connecticut! They routinely vote absentee without excuse. We feel strongly CT should have those rights as well.

We ask you to pass both S.B. 184 and H.B. 5262.

We believe voters should be able to vote this year by absentee ballot as COVID19 persists. As the virus mutates, we cannot be at all sure the danger is gone. Please continue the COVID19 safety measures for 2022 and allow everyone who fears exposure to COVID19 to vote by absentee ballot.

Thank you,

Janet and Jim Luongo
Norwalk, CT